

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /068 W

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R 281041Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3730

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 1409

DAKAR FOR USDAO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ML

SUBJ: SOVIET COMMENT ON ARRESTS IN MALIAN ARMY

1. SOVIET CHARGE BARAKHNINE WAS HOST AT SOVIET EMBASSY FILM SHOWING APRIL 27 FOR AMERICAN EMBASSY FAMILIES, A RETURN ENGAGEMENT FOR SIMILAR SHOWING WE HAD FOR THEM. I ASKED BARAKHNINE WHAT HE KNEW ABOUT ARRESTS AT KAT. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD OF ELEVEN ARRESTS AND ASKED IF WE JUDGED IT AN ORGANIZED COUP ATTEMPT. I SAID NO; IT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SPREADING DISCONTENT RATHER THAN AN ORGANIZED MOVE AGAINST THE REGIME. HE AGREED CAUTIOUSLY. HE WAS INTENSELY INTERESTED WHEN I TOLD HIM THAT AT LEAST TWO SENIOR MALIAN OFFICIALS HAD ADMITTED ARRESTS TO US. BARAKHNINE AGREED THAT MILITARY COMMITTEE WOULD HAVE TO PRESENT PUBLIC EXPLANATION SOON.

2. BARAKHNINE ADDED THAT DEFENSE MINISTER DOUKARA AND A "LARGE ENTOURAGE" HAD COME TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY THAT DAY TO PRESENT A WREATH ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEATH OF MARSHALL GRECHKO. THUS IT APPEARS THAT DOUKARA IS NOT UNDER ARREST, BUT
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WILD RUMORS CONCERN MCNG HIS ACTIVITIES CONTINUE TO

CIRCULATE.

DAWKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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